Food for Work Programme in Tamil Nadu

2606. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the activities undertaken under Food for Work Scheme in Tamil Nadu for 2001-2002;

(b) the number of persons benefited during the same period;

(c) the details of the foodgrains allocated under the scheme to take care of the drought-affected districts of the State for the last three years; and

(d) the benefits accrued to such district of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) No request was received from the State Govt. of Tamil Nadu for implementation of Food for Work Programme in the State.

Introducing the insurance scheme for women handloom weavers in Gujarat

2607. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any insurance scheme has been introduced in Gujarat and elsewhere for women handloom weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of women weavers presently covered under the scheme in Gujarat, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Governmet of India has been implementing the Group Insurance Scheme and the New Insurance Scheme for the benefit of the handloom weavers in the country including in the State of Gujarat. These schemes cover both men and women weavers. The details of these schemes are given below:

(i) *Group Insurance Scheme:*

This Scheme was introduced in the year 1992-93 in order to meet the socio-economic obligations of the weavers towards his family and to provide security against the uncertainty of his working capacity in old age. Under the scheme, a weaver is provided an insurance coverage of Rs. 10,000/- for an annual premium of Rs. 120/-. The premium is shared equally among the beneficiary, State and Central Government.

(ii) *New Insurance Scheme for Handloom Weavers*

This Scheme was introduced in the year 1997-98. The scheme provides coverage against various types of risk at a primium of Rs. 120/- per annum with contribution of Rs. 20/- by the weaver, Rs. 40/- by State Government and Rs. 60/- per annum by the Government of India.

(c) The district-wise number of women weavers covered under these schemes in Gujarat is given in the Statement.

Statement

District-wise number of women weavers covered under the Group Insurance Scheme and New Insurance Scheme in the State of Gujarat

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Group Insurance Scheme	New Insurance Scheme
1.	Ahmedabad	263	263
2.	Amreli	25	29
3.	Anand	67	67
4.	Banaskantha	229	244
5.	Jamnagar	5	5

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Group Insurance Scheme	New Insurance Scheme
6.	Bhavnagar	12	12
7.	Junagarh	19	19
8.	Khoda	58	58
9.	Mehsana	86	86
10.	Porbandar	21	21
11.	Rajkot	348	348
12.	Sabarkantha	79	109
13.	Valsad	1	1
14.	Surendranagar	503	553
15.	Patan	6	6
16.	Gandhinagar	2	2
	Total	**1724**	**1823**

Concessions demanded by Garment Exporters Association

2608. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Garments Exporters Association has demanded that Government should reduce corporate tax, remove anomalies in excise and customs and allow duty free import of capital goods and raw materials to meet international competition; and

(b) if so, Governments' response to these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) The various Textile Industry Associations including garment exporters represnting the textile industry give suggestions for rationalisation of tax structure which *inter alia* include reduction in corporate tax, removal of anomalies in fiscal duty, etc. Such suggestions are given due consideration and